

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**MONTANA FIELD OFFICE**  
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 29, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana experienced mild temperatures along with moisture throughout the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from the mid-40s to 81 degrees in Forsyth and Broadus. Low temperatures ranged from 6 degrees in Ridgeway to 37 degrees in Polson and Yellowtail. Sixty-three weather stations reported moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Red Lodge with 0.48 of an inch of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 44 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 25 percent the previous year. Subsoil was rated 70 percent very short to short, compared with 32 percent last year. Winter wheat seeded was 95 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 91 percent. Potato harvest was 93 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 72 percent. Corn for grain harvest was 51 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 65 percent. Sugarbeet harvest was 78 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 59 percent.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	51	45	65	59
Potatoes				
Harvested .....	93	92	72	84
Safflower				
Harvested .....	75	70	84	89
Sugarbeets				
Harvested .....	78	64	59	83
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	95	92	91	94
Emerged.....	79	66	81	78
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture .....	71	66	65	77
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	35	25	14	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture .....	80	75	82	85
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	22	20	15	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work .....	6.0	6.1	5.2	5.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	16	18	9	10
Short .....	28	30	16	25
Adequate .....	52	47	60	59
Surplus .....	4	5	15	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	27	32	11	13
Short .....	43	36	21	28
Adequate .....	30	31	59	54
Surplus .....	--	1	9	5

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor .....	4	6	NA	NA
Poor .....	14	15	NA	NA
Fair .....	39	39	NA	NA
Good .....	37	33	NA	NA
Excellent .....	6	7	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	40	38	13	15
Poor .....	27	26	19	20
Fair .....	22	21	34	33
Good .....	10	13	29	28
Excellent .....	1	2	5	4
Winter wheat				
Very poor .....	3	7	--	1
Poor .....	9	8	2	4
Fair .....	66	52	23	32
Good .....	21	27	47	43
Excellent .....	1	6	28	20

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana's weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Montana/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2017/MT\\_Weather\\_10292017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/MT_Weather_10292017.pdf)